



# News Release

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## **King County Water District 54 customers near Normandy Park, Des Moines urged to boil tap water**

**OLYMPIA** — The state Department of Health urges customers of King County Water District 54 to boil their tap water because potentially harmful E. coli bacteria were detected in the water.

The advisory affects more than 5,000 customers in Southwest King County. The district extends southward from South 212th Street to the Kent-Des Moines Road and eastward from Puget Sound to 14th Avenue. The district includes parts of the cities of Des Moines and Normandy Park.

E. coli bacteria can cause gastrointestinal illness. To kill the bacteria, customers should boil the tap water they use for drinking, brushing teeth, preparing food, making ice and washing dishes. Bring water to a brisk boil for one minute and allow it to cool before use.

All food establishments such as restaurants, coffee shops, delis, and school kitchens within the affected boundaries should suspend operations until the boil water advisory is lifted. Grocery stores that only sell pre-packaged foods are not advised to suspend operations.

The water district staff will disinfect the system with chlorine and flush the chlorine out of the water lines, then collect more water samples. On Monday, a state Department of Health engineer will inspect the system with water district staff to look for the source of contamination.

“The safety of our customers is our top priority,” said King County Water District 54 Superintendent Eric Clarke. “We’re working closely with the state to resolve this problem as quickly as possible.”

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The boil-water advisory will remain in effect until the Department of Health and water district staff is satisfied the water meets safe drinking water standards.

Customers who have questions about their water quality can call the water district, 206-878-7210.

The [Department of Health website](#) is your source for *a healthy dose of information*. Also, [find us on Facebook](#) and [follow us on Twitter](#).

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